Allen C. Hoberg DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

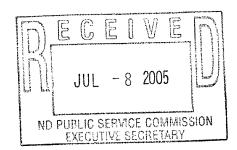
1707 North 9th Street Bismarck, North Dakota 58501-1882

July 7, 2005

701-328-3260 Fax 701-328-3254 oah@state.nd.us www.state.nd.us/oah

Mr. William W. Binek Public Service Commission 600 East Boulevard Avenue Department 408 Bismarck, ND 58505

Dear Mr. Binek:



Thank you for your July 5, 2005, request of the designation of an administrative law judge from the Office of Administrative Hearings to conduct a hearing in the matter of PPM Energy, Inc.. I hereby designate Al Wahl to be assigned as an administrative law judge to conduct the hearing in regard to this matter. Because the administrative law judge will not be making recommended findings of fact and conclusions of law, or issuing a recommended order, the person or persons who will be making the final administrative decision in regard to this matter (*i.e.*, agency head, deputy, board, commission) must be in attendance at the hearing.

Please send all additional relevant documents (correspondence, and other pleadings and documents) to the designated administrative law judge in care of the Office of Administrative Hearings, 1707 North 9th Street, Bismarck, North Dakota 58501-1882. I understand the hearing is scheduled for July 29, 2005, beginning at 9:00 a.m., at the Pierce County Courthouse, 240 2nd Street SE, Rugby, North Dakota. Because the administrative law judge is requested to conduct the hearing only, the agency must give proper notice of the hearing.

Your request has been assigned OAH File No. 20050268. Please include this number on all future documents and correspondence filed for this matter with the Office of Administrative Hearings.

Sincerely,

Allen C. Hoberg

Director

ACH: jm

cc: Tim Seck